

# HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 791

By Yokley

## A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Billy R. Williams of Greeneville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Billy R. Williams on January 13, 2007; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Williams was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, born in the Witt Community of South Hamblen County on March 15, 1927, Billy Williams graduated from Morristown High School and honorably served with the United States Army in Italy during World War II; and

WHEREAS, he was employed by the Pet Milk Company of Morristown before he moved to Greeneville in 1960; and

WHEREAS, Billy Williams launched his admirable real estate career in 1960 as a broker for the Greeneville Development Company and later became a managing broker for McWherter and Milligan Insurance and Real Estate; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, he opened his own real estate company, Billy Williams and Associates, Realtors, which later became Century 21 Billy Williams and Associates, Realtors, as Mr. Williams became one of the first Tennesseans to purchase a Century 21 franchise; and

WHEREAS, he cultivated the franchise until his retirement in 2001, garnering numerous honors along the way, including the Certified Residential Broker Designation by the National Association of Realtors in 1976, induction into the Northeast Tennessee Association of Realtors Hall of Fame in 2006, and recognition as a "Realtor Emeritus" by the National Association of Realtors in 2007; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Williams further served his colleagues by his involvement with several local and state professional organizations, evincing his laudable leadership abilities variously as the local association's President, Governmental Affairs Chairman, and Professional Standards Committee Chairman and as the President of the Tennessee Association of Realtors; and

WHEREAS, Billy Williams served with acumen and alacrity throughout his many years in the real estate profession, earning the respect of his peers for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, demonstrating his profound commitment to public service, Mr. Williams also contributed his time and remarkable talents to his community as a Chairman and member of the Greeneville Regional Planning Commission; as President of the former Greeneville-Greene County Area Chamber of Commerce, the Greeneville Jaycees, the United Way of Greene County, and Links Hill Country Club; and as a member of the Greeneville Shrine Club, the Greeneville Exchange Club, and the American Heart Association; and

WHEREAS, he was an active and devout member of First Baptist Church of Greeneville since 1960, which he served faithfully as a Trustee, Sunday School Department Director, member of the Finance Committee, and a singer in the Harmony Four Quartet; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Williams was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Margie Douthat-Williams, and will be sorely missed by his children, Becky Roberts and Mark Williams; his daughter-in-law, Ann Williams; his grandchildren, Geoff McElrath, Chase Williams, Erin Williams, Rebecca Williams, and Morgan Bridges; his great-granddaughter, Katelyn Bridges; and several nieces and nephews; and

WHEREAS, he was further blessed by the relationships he enjoyed with those who preceded him in death, including his wife of fifty-three years, Maxine Morgan Williams, his infant son, Marvin Earl Williams, his brother, John Williams, and his sister, Velma McFadden; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Williams leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Billy R. Williams, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Williams.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.